

Message Text

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13

ACTION EB-11

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 CAB-09 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00

INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01 FAA-00 SCEM-02 INT-08 PRS-01

SS-20 NSC-10 DRC-01 /084 W

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R 190805Z NOV 73

FM AMEMBASSY NICOSIA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7981

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE NICOSIA 2347

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ENRG, ETRN, EIND, CY

SUBJECT: CYRPUS: OIL SUPPLY

REF: (A) NICOSIA 2300 (B) STATE 221740

1. MOBIL OIL CYPRUS GENERAL MANAGER CONFIRMS ACCURACY OF ACCOUNT OF GOC/OIL COMPANIES EXCHANGE GIVEN US BY COMMERCE MINISTRY DIR GEN (ELIADES) AND REPORTED REFTEL A.

2. MANAGER DESCRIBED GOC THREAT TO "REASSESS ITS RELATIONSHIP WITH AND THE STATUS OF" THE INTERNATIONAL OIL COMPANIES OPERATING IN CYPRUS AS "SABRE RATTLING." NEVERTHELESS, HE HAS ASKED MOBIL HEADQUARTERS IF THE COMPANY WOULD HAVE PROBLEMS WITH MOBIL CYPRUS PURCHASING AND REFINING SOVIET CRUDE, IF THEY ARE REQUIRED TO DO SO.

3. MANAGER NOTED THAT CRUDE SHIPMENTS FROM SIDON, LEBANON TO THE CYPRUS REFINERY WERE RESUMED ON NOVEMBER 13, JUST IN TIME TO AVERT SHUTDOWN OF REFINERY. THOUGH HE IS CONFIDENT THAT SUFFICIENT CRUDE SUPPLIES WILL BE AVAILABLE FOR THE IMMEDIATE FUTURE, HE FORESEES SHORTAGES IN THE 20 PERCENT OF CYPRUS' REQUIREMENTS WHICH THE PETROLEUM COMPANIES IMPORT AS REFINED PRODUCTS -- KEROSENE AND JET FUEL, LIQUID PETROLEUM GAS, AND PREMIUM GASOLINE. MOBIL BUYS THESE PRODUCTS FROM ITALY,

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WHICH HAD TEN PERCENT SURPLUS. WITH THE ITALIANS NO LONGER IN

SURPLUS, HE FORESEES SERIOUS SHORTAGES OF THESE PRODUCTS THIS WINTER.

4. THOUGH PETROLEUM COMPANIES ARE MANAGING TO MEET JET FUEL REQUIREMENTS UNDER THEIR CONTRACTS WITH AIR CARRIERS, THEY ARE LIMITING OR REFUSING OCCASIONAL "CREDIT CARD" REQUESTS FOR FUEL AT AIRPORT.

5. IN NOVEMBER 13 STATEMENT, GOC COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY MINISTER COLOCASSIDES SAID THAT CYPRUS WOULD NOT FACE A CRUDE OIL SHORTAGE IN THE IMMEDIATE FUTURE BUT NOTED THAT IMPORTS OF REFINED PRODUCTS "WOULD UNAVOIDABLY BE AFFECTED BY THE SHORTAGE OF PETROLEUM PRODUCTS OBSERVED INTERNATIONALLY."
GRANT

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
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Draft Date: 19 NOV 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: morefirh
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
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Declassified/Released
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EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

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